

## **Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 2**

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9— Relative to heart disease.

[Filed with Secretary of State February 11, 2005.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SCR 9, Kehoe. American Heart Month.

This measure would recognize the month of February 2005, as American Heart Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women. The measure would also recognize February 4, 2005, as Wear Red for Women Day in California and urge all citizens to become aware of the vital issues of women's heart health by wearing and displaying the color red on that day. This measure would also urge public support for Go Red for Women events planned in their community during American Heart Month.

WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the nation's number one killer, and

WHEREAS, CVD claims the lives of more women than men each year; and

WHEREAS, Since 1984, more than 500,000 women per year die from CVD, equal to nearly one death every minute; and

WHEREAS, Within six years after a recognized heart attack: 35 percent of women will have another heart attack, 14 percent will develop chest pain, 11 percent will have a stroke, 46 percent will be disabled with heart failure, and 6 percent will experience sudden cardiac death; and

WHEREAS, African-American and Mexican-American women have higher heart disease and stroke risk factors than White women of comparable socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, Most women do not realize that CVD is their greatest health threat; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is the nation's number three killer and the number one cause of permanent, long-term disability; and

WHEREAS, Each year approximately 40,000 more women than men have a stroke; and

WHEREAS, Eleven percent of women will have a stroke within six months after a heart attack, 25 percent of women die within one year of their first stroke, and 53 percent of women under 65 years of age who have a stroke die within eight years; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms of CVD in women generally are recognized later in life when other health challenges may also be present; and

WHEREAS, In women, one out of 2.5 deaths are due to CVD and only 38 percent of women report that their doctors have discussed CVD with them when discussing their health; and

WHEREAS, Sixty-three percent of women who die suddenly from coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of the disease; and

WHEREAS, Each year the economic burden due to CVD is estimated to be over \$360 billion nationwide and the economic burden in California is estimated to be over \$45 billion; and

WHEREAS, The public does not recognize the fact that each year CVD claims more lives than the next seven causes of death combined; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to reduce disability and death from heart disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is committed to conducting and supporting medical research that advances knowledge in the areas of prevention and treatment of CVD; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association strives to inform all citizens about the critical importance of tools and skills that will increase the survival rate of women from heart disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association launched the Go Red for Women initiative to help raise awareness of women and heart disease and will focus on that theme during American Heart Month in February and on National Wear Red for Women Day, Friday, February 4, 2005; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring,* That the month of February 2005, be recognized as American Heart Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature recognizes February 4, 2005, as Wear Red for Women Day in California and urges all citizens to become aware of the vital issues of women's heart health by wearing and displaying the color red on that day; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature urges public support for Go Red for Women events planned in their community during American Heart Month; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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**CORRECTIONS:**

**Heading — lines 2 and 4.**

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